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South Dakota

Labor Bulletin

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South Dakota's Female Population Continues to Enter the Labor Force

Have you ever asked a little girl what she wants to be when she grows up? Today's little girl can, and probably will, provide you with just about any career choice imaginable. Yesterday's little girl probably would have said she would like to be a mommy, a nurse, or a teacher. This example describes better than any other the impact women have had on the labor force over the past years.

In 1989, the percentage of the female population who were in South Dakota's labor force was 61.7 percent. In 1980, the percentage of the female population in the labor force was 55.3 percent. Therefore, in the past nine years the percentage of the female population in the labor force has increased by 6.4 percentage points in South Dakota.

By comparison, in 1989 the percentage of the male population who were in the labor force was 78.1 percent. In 1980, the percentage of the male population in the labor force was 80.7 percent. Therefore, during the same time period that the percentage of women involved in South Dakota's labor force increased, the percent of males decreased slightly.

Because more women are entering the labor force, and many of these women will remain in the labor force for quite some time, more women are advancing their education. Nationally, in 1987, 21.7 percent of the females in the 25 to 29 years old age category had completed four (or more) years of college. Just 20 years earlier, only 12.1 percent of the females in the same age category had completed four or more years of college.

In addition to the advancements women have made regarding their level of education, many women are choosing careers for different reasons than in the past. In the past, most women worked to help with the family finances. Although many women still work to assist with the family's financial situation, the black and white of this reality has now transformed into shades of gray.

Today, many women who have advanced their education are also waiting longer to marry and start a family than they once did. Therefore, they are working to provide themselves with a living. In addition, once they do get married it is likely they will already have established themselves in a career and will not choose to leave their profession. This may be due to the fact that many women are receiving some form of higher education and they are reluctant to give up a profession that they have invested in, and chosen to make part of their life.

Public attitude has also played an important role in the willingness of women to work outside the home. In the past, the general public did not approve of women working outside the home unless their financial situation required it. However, during the postwar era which began in 1957 it became acceptable for older women (those who did not have children at home) to work. Today, it is acceptable for women to have both a career and a family.

However, one can not truly explore the reasons why women work without making mention of the fact that more women work today than in the past because they are the sole providers for their household. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the number of single-parent families has almost doubled since 1970 and about one out of five families with children is maintained by women.

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Today's labor force has a higher percentage of the female population than in the past; more women are receiving educational training for a career than in the past; and reasons for obtaining employment seem to be expanding for women.

Women Enter a Variety of Occupations

However, according to a publication entitled Women in the American Economy, published by the U.S. Department of Commerce in November 1986, even though women have made progress in entering occupations predominantly held by men in the past, especially managerial and professional specialty occupations, the majority of women are still in traditional "female" occupations. South Dakota seems to be following this national trend.

Many South Dakota women work in the occupational category of administrative support, including clerical. In fact, in 1989, females constituted 84.3 percent of the employment in this occupational category. Some examples of administrative support, including clerical occupations are secretaries; data processors and other office machine operators; dispatchers; tellers; insurance policy processing clerks; court clerks; hotel desk clerks; and first line supervisors and manager/supervisors for clerical and administrative support occupations.

Services occupations also constituted a high percentage of females in 1989. Women made up 72.2 percent of the employment in this occupational category. Some examples of services occupations include dental assistants; medical assistants; nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants; home health aides; cosmetologists; child care workers; hostesses; waitresses; and cooks. Services occupations generally allow women to have more flexible work schedules (many of the jobs are part-time), which allow women with children to juggle both a job and be "super mom" as well.

By comparison, men made up 15.7 percent of the employment in the occupational category of administrative support, including clerical, and 27.8 percent of the employment in services occupations in 1989.

This comparison indicates that many women employed in these types of occupations may do so because they have family responsibilities and desire and need the type of work environment that provides them with an opportunity for more flexible schedules and part-time employment.

However, the professional specialty occupational category seems to be following the national trend as well. In 1989, women constituted 59.1 percent of all people in the professional specialty occupational category, while men made up 40.9 percent of the employment. Some examples of occupations in this category include: engineers; computer scientist; psychologists; social workers; legal assistance; lawyers; teachers; physicians and surgeons; respiratory therapists; speech pathologist and audiologists; and registered nurses.

Just as our great-grandmothers were pioneers in the development of this state, our mothers (and in some cases our grandmothers) were also pioneers of a different sort. They, like women across the nation, challenged society's attitude about the working women and won. Today, in South Dakota as well as the nation, women continue to enjoy contributing to the labor force.

South Dakota Labor Market In May

In May, nonfarm wage and salaried employment in South Dakota continued its expansion from year-earlier levels by posting a job increase of 6,100 (or 2.2 percent) and establishing an employment level of 282,300.

Government employment posted a 2,400 job increase over the year. Some of this increase was due to the hiring of census workers within the federal government division.

When compared to year-ago employment levels the services industry led the private industry groups with a growth of 1,700 jobs. Divisions showing job growth over year-ago employment levels are: hospitals, 300 jobs; personal/business services, 300 jobs; educational services, 400 jobs; and social services, 400 jobs. Part of the job growth in social services occurred in day care as more mothers are continuing the trend of entering the job market.

The finance, insurance and real estate industry increased by 1,000 jobs. Nine hundred of these jobs were in the finance division; with depository institutions adding 300 jobs and nondepository institutions adding 500 jobs.

The retail trade industry added 900 jobs from year-ago employment levels, while wholesale trade decreased slightly. Divisions within retail trade adding jobs were food stores, 600 jobs; automotive dealers and gasoline stations, 500 jobs; and building materials and garden supply, 200 jobs. There was division wide growth among food stores as they continue to diversify their merchandise.

The manufacturing, mining, and construction industries remained stable over year-ago employment levels.

Month-To-Month Employment Changes

The May 1990 nonfarm employment level showed an increase of 3,800 jobs (or 1.4 percent) over the month. Accelerated seasonal hiring helped boost this employment level.

Employment gains of 1,200 in the diverse services industry were centered in tourist-related divisions. As the weather warmed, tourists began to travel South Dakota. This is reflected in the hotels/motels/amusements division as it captured 800 of the 1,200 jobs. The opening of the racing season, outdoor plays, summer youth camps, zoos, golf courses, and the continued increase in camping and fishing activities all added to this seasonal increase in employment.

Many motorists are starting to experience the fifth season---construction. This industry reported a healthy over-the-month employment surge with the addition of 1,000 jobs. Building construction increased 200 jobs; highway and street, 600 jobs; and special trade contractors, 200 jobs.

The manufacturing industry saw an increase of 400 jobs over the month. This increase was split equally between the durable goods and nondurable goods divisions.

Government employment increased by 900 jobs over the month. Local government showed an increase of 300 jobs which can be partially attributed to the hiring of additional summer help for highway and street construction, and amusement and recreation services. Part of the increase in state government can be attributed to the additional hiring of workers by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks for park cleanup, maintenance, and fee collections as people began to visit state parks and campgrounds. There was also job growth in the South Dakota Department of Transportation as seasonal workers were hired to perform construction and maintenance work on South Dakota roads, highways and Interstates 29 and 90.

The demand for sand, rock, gravel and granite by the construction industry caused the mining and quarrying division to increase employment by 200 jobs over April employment levels.

The South Dakota labor force in May 1990 was 362,900. There were 350,100 South Dakotans employed and 12,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate was 3.5 percent, a slight decrease from the April rate of 3.7.

The labor force level decreased 1,900 from year-earlier levels. Most of this decrease is a result of the decline in the number of unemployed from one year ago. A large drop in the level of the unemployed labor force entrants and re-entrants is probably due to the lack of students entering the labor force in May. Traditionally, South Dakota students begin entering the labor force in May. This year, however, this entry has not yet occurred.

While South Dakota's employment has decreased slightly from year-earlier levels, nonfarm wage and salaried employment has increased 6,100 jobs. Apparently, some of the self-employed and unpaid family workers have changed to nonfarm jobs, which causes the nonfarm employment level to rise, but does not impact the total employment level. At the same time, other self-employed and unpaid family workers have left the labor force and caused the total employment numbers to decline.

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	May 1990 (1)				May 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
United States	124,640,000	118,277,000	6,363,000	5.1(3)	123,196,000	117,039,000	6,156,000	5.0(3)
South Dakota	362,900	350,100	12,800	3.5	364,800	350,500	14,300	3.9
Sioux Falls MSA	74,069	72,130	1,939	2.6	74,630	72,268	2,362	3.2
Rapid City MSA	39,651	38,277	1,374	3.5	40,332	38,725	1,607	4.0
Aurora	1,479	1,466	13	.9	1,485	1,448	37	2.5
Beadle	9,038	8,864	174	1.9	9,289	8,941	348	3.7
Bennett	1,654	1,592	62	3.7	1,590	1,557	33	2.1
Bon Homme	3,577	3,551	26	.7	3,502	3,484	18	.5
Brookings	16,017	14,553	1,464	9.1	15,888	14,345	1,543	9.7
Brown	19,981	18,885	1,096	5.5	20,727	19,384	1,343	6.5
Brule	2,823	2,779	44	1.6	2,763	2,734	29	1.0
Buffalo	467	443	24	5.1	483	441	42	8.7
Butte	3,621	3,515	106	2.9	3,612	3,526	86	2.4
Campbell	1,092	1,072	20	1.8	1,111	1,076	35	3.2
Charles Mix	3,898	3,808	90	2.3	3,935	3,792	143	3.6
Clark	2,014	1,959	55	2.7	2,002	1,925	77	3.8
Clay	7,315	6,879	436	6.0	7,211	6,841	370	5.1
Codington	12,263	11,871	392	3.2	12,902	11,997	905	7.0
Corson	1,419	1,278	141	9.9	1,517	1,347	170	11.2
Custer	3,693	3,550	143	3.9	3,538	3,479	59	1.7
Davison	9,622	9,470	152	1.6	9,556	9,459	97	1.0
Day	3,423	3,258	165	4.8	3,490	3,316	174	5.0
Deuel	2,185	2,139	46	2.1	2,271	2,207	64	2.8
Dewey	2,193	2,043	150	6.8	2,131	2,003	128	6.0
Douglas	1,738	1,716	22	1.3	1,769	1,723	46	2.6
Edmunds	2,125	2,050	75	3.5	2,197	2,094	103	4.7
Fall River	3,367	3,228	139	4.1	3,437	3,318	119	3.5
Faulk	1,191	1,180	11	.9	1,217	1,210	7	.6
Grant	4,388	4,183	205	4.7	4,380	4,197	183	4.2
Gregory	2,388	2,348	40	1.7	2,487	2,419	68	2.7
Haakon	1,207	1,156	51	4.2	1,157	1,139	18	1.6
Hamlin	2,620	2,486	134	5.1	2,513	2,414	99	3.9
Hand	2,033	1,982	51	2.5	2,015	1,989	26	1.3
Hanson	1,584	1,558	26	1.6	1,592	1,566	26	1.6
Harding	776	765	11	1.4	792	783	9	1.1
Hughes	8,296	8,184	112	1.4	8,483	8,305	178	2.1
Hutchinson	4,291	4,229	62	1.4	4,295	4,251	44	1.0
Hyde	864	855	9	1.0	924	884	40	4.3
Jackson	1,703	1,659	44	2.6	1,632	1,586	46	2.8

Persons in the Labor Force: Employed/Unemployed

	May 1990 (1)				May 1989			
	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate	Labor Force(2)	Employment	Unemployment	Rate
Jerauld	1,206	1,169	37	3.1	1,205	1,192	13	1.1
Jones	682	658	24	3.5	672	659	13	1.9
Kingsbury	2,846	2,769	77	2.7	2,882	2,798	84	2.9
Lake	5,296	5,036	260	4.9	5,303	5,039	264	5.0
Lawrence	12,057	11,524	533	4.4	11,304	10,701	603	5.3
Lincoln	7,117	6,932	185	2.6	7,443	7,234	209	2.8
Lyman	1,523	1,486	37	2.4	1,556	1,466	90	5.8
McCook	2,995	2,874	121	4.0	2,936	2,877	59	2.0
McPherson	1,592	1,539	53	3.3	1,564	1,511	53	3.4
Marshall	2,333	2,243	90	3.9	2,343	2,286	57	2.4
Meade	9,144	8,739	405	4.4	9,233	8,841	392	4.2
Mellette	844	811	33	3.9	883	872	11	1.2
Miner	1,846	1,800	46	2.5	1,605	1,596	9	.6
Minnehaha	74,069	72,130	1,939	2.6	74,630	72,268	2,362	3.2
Moody	3,446	3,206	240	7.0	3,393	3,250	143	4.2
Pennington	39,651	38,277	1,374	3.5	40,332	38,725	1,607	4.0
Perkins	2,397	2,355	42	1.8	2,321	2,295	26	1.1
Potter	1,556	1,505	51	3.3	1,525	1,503	22	1.4
Roberts	4,695	4,484	211	4.5	4,709	4,480	229	4.9
Sanborn	1,107	1,096	11	1.0	1,132	1,106	26	2.3
Shannon	2,400	2,204	196	8.2	2,355	2,170	185	7.9
Spink	3,541	3,455	86	2.4	3,639	3,560	79	2.2
Stanley	1,482	1,434	48	3.2	1,547	1,507	40	2.6
Sully	817	799	18	2.2	802	787	15	1.9
Todd	2,877	2,659	218	7.6	2,789	2,661	128	4.6
Tripp	3,398	3,301	97	2.9	3,389	3,330	59	1.7
Turner	4,508	4,455	53	1.2	4,372	4,273	99	2.3
Union	6,155	5,875	280	4.5	5,867	5,510	357	6.1
Walworth	2,917	2,862	55	1.9	2,954	2,873	81	2.7
Yankton	10,887	10,713	174	1.6	11,078	10,886	192	1.7
Ziebach	1,219	1,153	66	5.4	1,143	1,112	31	2.7

(1) Preliminary data subject to revision.
(2) Labor force estimates include employed and unemployed civilians 16 years old and older by place of residence.
(3) The seasonally-adjusted rates which were announced by the national government were 5.3 and 5.2. The data in this table are not seasonally-adjusted.

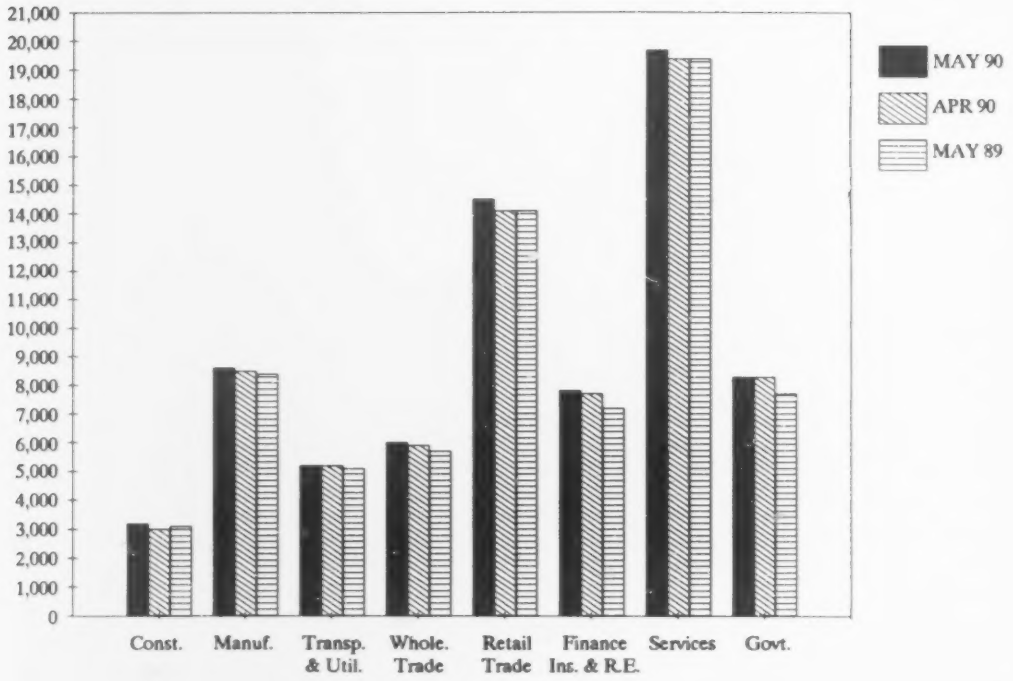
SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

South Dakota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	282,300	278,500	276,200	1.4	2.2
TOTAL PRIVATE	217,600	214,700	213,900	1.4	1.7
GOODS PRODUCING	45,400	43,900	45,000	3.4	.9
MINING	2,800	2,700	2,700	3.7	3.7
CONSTRUCTION	10,400	9,400	10,300	10.6	1.0
MANUFACTURING	32,200	31,800	32,000	1.3	.6
Durable Goods	18,200	18,000	18,000	1.1	1.1
Fabricated Metals & Machinery	10,700	10,700	10,600	.0	.9
Nondurable Goods	14,000	13,800	14,000	1.4	.0
Food & Kindred Products	7,600	7,400	7,500	2.7	1.3
Printing & Publishing	3,000	3,000	3,000	.0	.0
SERVICE PRODUCING	236,900	234,600	231,200	1.0	2.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	13,400	13,400	13,600	.0	-1.5
Transportation	7,900	7,900	8,100	.0	-2.5
Communication	3,100	3,100	3,200	.0	-3.1
Electric/Gas/Sanitary Services	2,400	2,300	2,300	4.3	4.3
TRADE	73,900	73,800	73,100	.1	1.1
Wholesale Trade	18,400	18,400	18,500	.0	-.5
Durable Goods	8,300	8,300	8,500	.0	-2.4
Nondurable Goods	10,100	10,100	10,000	.0	1.0
Retail Trade	55,500	55,400	54,600	.2	1.6
General Merchandise/Apparel	9,200	9,300	9,200	-1.1	.0
Food Stores	8,600	8,600	8,100	.0	6.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	16,300	16,200	15,300	.6	6.5
Finance	10,900	10,800	10,000	.9	9.0
Depository Institutions	6,000	6,000	5,700	.0	5.3
Nondepository Institutions	4,200	4,200	3,700	.0	13.5
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	3,900	3,800	3,700	2.6	5.4
SERVICES	68,600	67,400	66,900	1.8	2.5
Hotels/Motels & Amusements	8,500	7,700	8,500	10.4	.0
Personal and Business	8,000	8,100	7,700	-1.2	3.9
Medical and Health Services	25,900	25,900	25,500	.0	1.6
Hospitals	12,000	11,900	11,700	.8	2.6
Health Services, other than Hospitals	13,900	14,000	13,800	-.7	.7
Educational Services	5,600	5,400	5,200	3.7	7.7
Social Services	5,300	5,100	4,900	3.9	8.2
Membership Organizations	8,100	8,200	8,000	-1.2	1.3
GOVERNMENT	64,700	63,800	62,300	1.4	3.9
Federal	12,400	12,200	11,400	1.6	8.8
State	17,100	16,700	16,500	2.4	3.6
State Education	8,400	8,300	7,800	1.2	7.7
Local	35,200	34,900	34,400	.9	2.3
Local Education	20,600	20,700	20,300	-.5	1.5

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Sioux Falls MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)

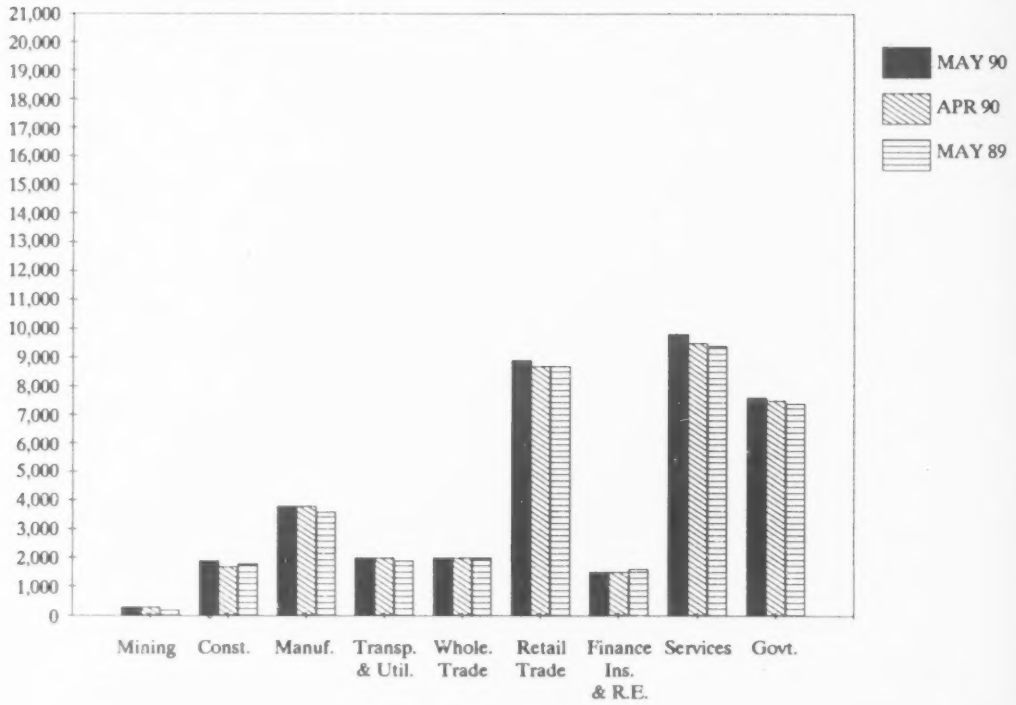


	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	73,400	72,200	70,800	1.7	3.7
GOODS PRODUCING	11,900	11,600	11,600	2.6	2.6
*MINING					
CONSTRUCTION	3,200	3,000	3,100	6.7	3.2
MANUFACTURING	8,600	8,500	8,400	1.2	2.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	61,500	60,600	59,200	1.5	3.9
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	5,200	5,200	5,100	.0	2.0
TRADE	20,500	20,000	19,800	2.5	3.5
Wholesale	6,000	5,900	5,700	1.7	5.3
Retail	14,500	14,100	14,100	2.8	2.8
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	7,800	7,700	7,200	1.3	8.3
SERVICES	19,700	19,400	19,400	1.5	1.5
GOVERNMENT	8,300	8,300	7,700	.0	7.8

*Mining employment not published, employment less than 100.

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rapid City MSA Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment (Jobs by Industry)



	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
TOTAL	37,800	37,000	36,600	2.2	3.3
GOODS PRODUCING	6,000	5,800	5,600	3.4	7.1
MINING	300	300	200	.0	50.0
CONSTRUCTION	1,900	1,700	1,800	11.8	5.6
MANUFACTURING	3,800	3,800	3,600	.0	5.6
SERVICE PRODUCING	31,800	31,200	31,000	1.9	2.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2,000	2,000	1,900	.0	5.3
TRADE	10,900	10,700	10,700	1.9	1.9
Wholesale	2,000	2,000	2,000	.0	.0
Retail	8,900	8,700	8,700	2.3	2.3
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	1,500	1,500	1,600	.0	-6.3
SERVICES	9,800	9,500	9,400	3.2	4.3
GOVERNMENT	7,600	7,500	7,400	1.3	2.7

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: The figures on pages 6, 7 and 8 include almost all nonfarm wage earners (full and part-time) but exclude the self-employed. They are derived from a monthly sample survey of South Dakota non-agricultural establishments and include workers on the payroll for the week including the 12th of the month. These tables compare the current month's employment totals of the major industry groups to the totals of the previous month and year.

Hours and Earnings of Production Workers in South Dakota

	Number of Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989
Total Private	180,600	178,100	177,700	32.8	32.7	32.6
Mining	2,300	2,300	2,300	43.2	41.8	42.4
Construction	8,300	7,400	8,200	40.8	39.1	41.9
Manufacturing	24,200	24,000	24,200	39.9	39.0	41.6
Transportation & Public Utilities	11,200	11,200	11,300	37.5	38.1	37.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	64,800	64,400	63,900	30.8	30.6	30.4
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	12,300	12,200	11,400	35.1	35.9	33.8
Services	57,500	56,600	56,400	29.1	29.4	28.4

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989
Total Private	$254.20	$256.04	$247.43	$7.75	$7.83	$7.59
Mining	521.86	510.38	521.52	12.08	12.21	12.30
Construction	404.33	392.96	399.73	9.91	10.05	9.54
Manufacturing	336.36	327.60	343.62	8.43	8.40	8.26
Transportation & Public Utilities	412.50	424.82	405.38	11.00	11.15	10.81
Wholesale & Retail Trade	195.89	200.12	188.78	6.36	6.54	6.21
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	272.38	286.84	263.30	7.76	7.99	7.79
Services	218.25	220.50	205.62	7.50	7.50	7.24

Hours and Earnings of Manufacturing Production Workers in MSAs

	Number of Manufacturing Production Workers			Average Weekly Hours		
	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	6,100	5,800	6,100	45.1	44.5	43.6
Rapid City MSA	2,900	3,000	2,700	44.9	40.3	43.0

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989
Sioux Falls MSA	$386.51	$379.59	$355.78	$8.57	$8.53	$8.16
Rapid City MSA	443.16	396.55	363.35	9.87	9.84	8.45

SOURCE: Developed by the South Dakota Department of Labor, in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NOTE: Average hours and earnings data are derived from reports of payrolls and hours for production and related workers in manufacturing and mining, construction workers in construction, and non-supervisory employees in private service-producing industries. The data cover full and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The earnings figures are "gross" figures. They may be higher than employer wage rates, since they reflect premium pay for shift differentials and overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received; this is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed[1]

	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989
Sex, Total	1,480	2,039	1,736
Male	750	1,201	873
Female	730	838	863
Race, Total	1,480	2,039	1,736
White	1,325	1,824	1,587
Nonwhite	155	215	149
Age, Total	1,480	2,039	1,736
Under 45	1,044	1,388	1,280
Over 45	436	651	456
[2]Industry, Total	1,480	2,039	1,736
Mining	35	67	27
Construction	178	399	176
Manufacturing	515	637	667
Transportation & Public Utilities	49	86	83
Trade	268	349	382
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	79	83	32
Services	295	337	313
Government	61	81	56
[2]Occupation	1,480	2,039	1,736
Professional & Managerial	244	258	232
Clerical and Sales	290	309	313
Services	157	210	175
Processing	56	84	57
Machine Trade	98	88	74
Benchwork	271	323	429
Structural Work	238	512	282
Other	126	255	174
Duration of Current Unemployment			
Total	1,480	2,039	1,736
1-2 Weeks	235	315	222
3-4 Weeks	158	221	192
5-14 Weeks	581	810	737
15 Weeks & Over	506	693	585

[1]The insured unemployed are those persons who had worked for employers covered by South Dakota's Unemployment Insurance laws and who filed claims for unemployment insurance compensation during the week including the 12th of the month.

[2]Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

Selected Labor Department Activities

	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Unemployment Insurance					
A. Initial Claims	1,279	1,065	1,212	20.1	5.5
B. Weeks Compensated	7,578	8,775	9,021	-13.6	-16.0
C. Amount of Benefit Payments	$636,584	$798,024	$687,266	-20.2	-7.4
D. Unemployment Trust Fund Bal.	$45,175,557	$43,464,992	$43,549,121	3.9	3.7
Job Service					
E. Applicants Available (New and Renewal)	7,240	4,845	5,744	49.4	26.0
F. Nonfarm Placements	5,827	4,103	4,781	42.0	21.9
G. Nonfarm Job Openings	13,725	11,421	10,754	20.2	27.6

Selected Labor Department Activities (Continued)

	May 1990
H. Unemployment Insurance Savings	$79,307

The data above and in the table at the bottom of page 10 are taken from the records of the state unemployment insurance program and the state Job Service system.

A. Initial Claims - The total number of first claims for unemployment compensation.

B. Weeks Compensated - The total number of weeks for which claimants received compensation.

C. Amount of Benefit Payments - The total amount of money paid to claimants.

D. Unemployment Trust Fund Balance - The fund to which all required Unemployment Insurance taxes are paid and from which all benefits to claimants are paid.

E. Applicants Available (New and Renewals) - The total number of different individuals who registered or renewed their registrations for work at Job Service offices in the state.

F. Nonag Placements - A count of the number of times during the month that Job Service applicants were hired by nonfarm employers.

G. Nonag Job Openings - A count of new job openings received during the month by South Dakota Job Service offices from nonfarm employers.

H. Unemployment Insurance Savings - Estimated dollars saved due to placement of Unemployment Insurance claimants in jobs by Job Service.

From the Division of Labor and Management

With respect to worker's compensation, is it important whether the worker is an employee or independent contractor? Yes, it is very important. An independent contractor is not covered while an employee is. Determining whether one is an independent contractor or employee, however, can be difficult.

A determination regarding independent contrators versus employees can be the subject of litigation. When it is the subject of litigation, there are various criteria recognized by the courts when deciding whether one holds the status of an employee or an independent contractor. Some of these criteria are as follows:

1) How much control does the master exercise over the details of the work? If the servant has been hired for one specific job e.g. the plumber, there is a stronger argument that the servant is an independent contractor as opposed to an employee.

2) Is the one employed engaged in a distinct occupation or business? If the servant works full-time for the master, this would be an indication that the servant is an employee rather than an independent contractor.

3) Is the kind of occupation done under the direction of an employer or by a specialist without supervision? If the job in question is customarily done by a specialist, it would support the argument that the servant is an independent contractor.

4) How much skill is required in the particular occupation? If a person has had a considerable amount of training to do the specific task that he does, such as a plumber or an electrician, it would support the argument that he is an independent contractor.

5) Does the master or the servant supply the tools and the place of work for doing the job? If the master supplies the tools, and the work is done at the place of business of the master there is an indication that the master is in control of the work. This would support a finding that the servant is an employee as opposed to an independent contractor.

6) How long has the person been employed? This question seeks a determination whether the person was hired for a specific job, or whether the person is continually employed by the master.

7) How is the sevant paid? If he is paid by time as opposed to by the job, there would be support for determining employee status.

8) Is the work part of the regular business of the employer? If the work is not in the regular course of business of the employer, it would support a determination that the servant is an independent contractor.

9) What is the intent of the parties? This is not a controlling factor by itself, but is taken into consideration together with the rest of the evidence presented.

The above is a brief outline of the process used in determining independent contractor status or employee status. Each case is dependent upon its own facts, and either side may litigate their position. Any time you have questions, feel free to contact the Division of Labor and Management at 773-3681.

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Selected National Economic Indicators

	May 1990	Apr. 1990	May 1989	Percent Change From Last Month	Percent Change From Last Year
Consumer Price Index[1]	129.2	128.9	123.8	.2	4.4
Industrial Production Index[2]	109.7	109.0	108.3	.6	1.3
Retail Trade Sales[3]	$146,843	$147,931	$144,715	-.7	1.5
Privately Owned Housing Starts[4]	1,207	1,224	1,308	-1.4	-7.7
Bank Prime Loan Rate[5]	10.0	10.0	11.5	.0	-13.0

[1]U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. 1982-84 = 100.
[2]Federal Reserve Board. Includes manufacturing, mining and utilities. 1987 = 100. Seasonally adjusted.
[3]Bureau of the Census. Adjusted for seasonal, holiday and trading day differences. In millions of dollars.
[4]Bureau of the Census. Includes new, privately owned housing units started. Seasonally adjusted annual rates. In thousands of units.
[5]Federal Reserve Board. Annual rates.